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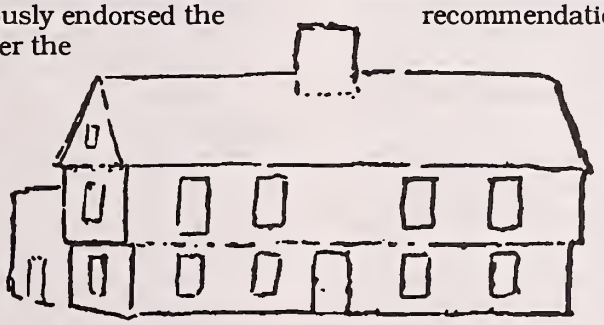
Annual Meeting to Focus on New Thoreau Center and Society's Future

Edmund A. Schofield

This year's annual meeting in Concord will mark an important turning point in the Thoreau Society's history. Members will have an opportunity to vote, whether in person or by proxy, on an exciting proposal to create a Thoreau Center in Concord.

As you may recall, the Society's Board of Directors last July authorized me to establish a special committee to explore, among other things, the possibility and feasibility of creating a "Thoreau World Center." You may recall, too, that during the 1991 annual meeting itself the members present unanimously endorsed the Board's action. Shortly after the annual meeting I began setting up the committee, which now numbers twenty-one members, and in conjunction with committee members began discussing possibilities with various individuals and organizations.



Adapted from Thoreau's journal entry of 13 March 1859

Late last July we learned that a 25-acre parcel of land in Walden Woods was being offered for sale; on the parcel was Boiling Spring, which Thoreau mentions in *Walden* (see Princeton Edition, pp. 183 and 192), and a commodious, 16-room brick house. Through various discussions with the Walden Woods Project (WWP) and the Trust for Public Land (TPL), it was possible for us to forge an arrangement to buy the parcel as the site of the hoped-for Center.

On 31 March 1992 WWP became the new owner of the Boiling Spring property. Although the original asking price for the property, which has a conservation easement that prevents its ever being developed for commercial use, was $3 million, negotiations between WWP, TPL, and the previous owner reduced the price to $1.25 million. Considering current land prices in Concord, the selling price was remarkably low. The Thoreau-Alcott House on Main Street in Concord (Thoreau's "Yellow House," where he lived during the 1850s and died in 1862), which occupies only 0.75 acre—and which, while smaller, has about 18 rooms including additions—sold in August 1991 for $1.35 million.

The 21-member special committee, which is chaired by Professor Joel Myerson, consists of the entire Executive Committee (chaired by Professor Wesley Mott) and twelve other individuals representing a cross-section of the membership. It has submitted a preliminary proposal or "concept paper" to WWP outlining the relationship between that organization and the Society, and spelling out the various functions of the proposed Center. WWP will comment on the proposal in late April 1992 and make its recommendations for changes. The following month the special committee will meet with WWP to forge a final proposal, which it will submit to the Board of Directors just before the annual meeting in July. If the Board approves it, the proposal will be submitted to the membership for approval during the annual meeting.

The Society is now working with WWP to arrange for small groups of members to visit the Center site on a regular schedule between Thursday, 9 July, and Sunday, 12 July. On Friday evening, 10 July, in lieu of the usual Friday evening lecture, a forum for members will be held in the First Parish Church in Concord. Various officers and committee members, as well as representatives of WWP, will be on hand to discuss the proposal with members and to answer all questions. This forum will also present us with an excellent opportunity to discuss other aspects of the Society's future.

To make it more affordable for members to attend this year's annual meeting, special accommodations have been arranged at the

Concord Academy on Main Street in Concord; and special rates have been negotiated at many nearby motels, hotels, and campgrounds. I am sure the other officers of the Society join me in encouraging you to join us to discuss the new Thoreau Center and the future of our Society. We hope soon to have our castle in the air, our "more commodious house"; please help us to put a firm foundation under it this July in Concord.

[4 May 1858]

Additions to the Thoreau Bibliography

Walter Harding

Adamson, Joseph. "The Scattered Body: Thoreau's Satiric Vision." *English Studies in Canada* 16 (March 1990): 75-90. Satire related to the human body.

Alcott, A. Bronson. *How Like an Angel Come Down: Conversations with Children on the Gospels.* Introduction by Alice Howell, Foreword by Stephen Mitchell. Hudson, NY: Lindisfarne, 1991. 336 pp. At last, a good edition of this volume that so much affected Thoreau.

Campbell, J. L. "It Is as if a Green Bough Were Laid Across the Page." *Rhetoric Society Quarterly* 20 (Winter 1990): 61-70. Thoreau's eloquence compared to others'.

Channing, William Ellery. "The Selected Letters of William Ellery Channing the Younger: Part 3." Edited by Francis Dedmond. *Studies in the American Renaissance, 1991*, Joel Myerson, ed. Charlottesville: UP of Virginia, 1991. 257-343. Another installment of this superb edition, this time giving much about Thoreau's final illness, Channing's co-editing of Thoreau's posthumous books, and Channing's writing of his biography of Thoreau. And once again we would like to call attention to *SAR*, our best scholarly periodical on the period.

Dettmar, Kevin. "Ransacking the Root Cellar: The Appeal to Etymology in *Walden*." *Strategies: A Journal of Theory, Culture and Politics* I (Fall 1988): 182-201.

Donahue, Brian. "Dammed at Both Ends and Cursed in the Middle: The Flowage of Concord River Meadows, 1798-1862." *Environmental Review* 13 (Fall 1989): 47-67. Comments on Thoreau's surveying of the river.

Doren, David MacNeil. "Hur Skall Man Leva?" *Om* (Stockholm), (June 1991): 52-53. Introducing the Swedish to Thoreau.

Emerson, Ralph Waldo, *Nature* / H. D. Thoreau, *Walking*. Introduction by John Elder. Wood engravings by Thomas Naason. Boston: Beacon Press, 1991. $15. 122 pp. A beautiful little gift edition with lovely wood engravings and a perceptive introduction.

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Goldman, Irene. "Feminism, Deconstruction, and the Universal: A Case Study on *Walden*." In Charles Moran & Elizabeth Penfield, eds. *Conversations: Contemporary Critical Theory: The Teaching of Literature*. Urbana: NCTE, 1990. 120-31.

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Iida, Ichiro. "*Walden* and [Montaigne's] *Essais*." *Program of English Literary Society: Aoyama Gakuin University* (Tokyo), 7 December 1991. 8. Abstract in Japanese.

Lesser, Wendy. "Thanks, I Suppose." In Christopher Ricks & Leonard Michaels, eds. *The State of the Language*. Berkeley: U of California Press, 1990. 204-14. Treatment of philanthropy of Thoreau and Henry James, Jr., compared.

Lewis, Jack. "Henry David Thoreau." *EPA Journal* 17 (September 1991): 61-62. Thoreau as conservationist.

McCall, Dan. "A Passive Resistance." In *The Silence of Bartleby*. Ithaca: Cornell, 1989. 59-77. Argues that Melville's Bartleby is not a satire of Thoreau.

McDonald, Kim. "Sediment Yields Evidence of Walden's History." *Chronicle of Higher Education* 38 (6 November 1991). Report on Winkler's sediment research.

Margolis, John. "Thoreau Obsessed with Self."

Bangor Daily News. 4 December 1991. "Thoreau was a snob, a fraud, something of a fool and a pernicious influence." Syndicated. Replies appeared in the *Chicago Tribune* for 15, 20, 24 December 1991.

Martell, Joanna. "My Brush with History." *American Heritage* 42 (October 1991): 34-35. Gives an early example of one peeking through his crossed fingers at one who has been in jail, as Thoreau records in "Civil Disobedience."

Morey, Frederick L. "Intermission." *Dickinsonic*. Brentwood, MD: 1971. 51. Poem mentioning Thoreau.

Neufeldt, Leonard. "Praetextus as Text: Editor-Critic Responses to Thoreau's Journal." *Arizona Quarterly* 46 (1990): 27-72. A lengthy discussion of varying approaches to editing Thoreau's Journal.

Newby, Debbie. "Rediscovering Nature in Thoreau." *Cleveland Plain Dealer*. 25 December 1991. On the editing of the Princeton Edition of Thoreau.

Oelschlaeger, M. Henry. "Henry David Thoreau: Philosopher of the Wilderness." In *The Idea of Wilderness from Pre-History to the Age of Ecology*. New Haven: Yale UP, 1991. 133-71.

Petroski, Henry. "H. D. Thoreau." *South Atlantic Quarterly* 90 (Winter 1991): 39-60. Excerpt from book.

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Serafin, Steven. "Walter Harding." *Dictionary of Literary Biography III: American Literary Biographers: Second Series*. Columbia, SC: Bruccoli Clark Layman, 1992. 72-80. Harding as a biographer of Thoreau.

Simpson, Jeffrey E. "Thoreau: The Walking Muse." *ESQ* 37 (1991): 1-33.

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Ballerup, 1985. 314 pp. Trans. into Danish by Niels Brunse.

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———. *Walden.* Introduction by Edward Hoagland. New York: Vintage/Library of America, 1991. 297 pp. Paperback edition of Library of America text, with a joyful introduction by Hoagland, annotations, and textual notes.

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———. *A Winter Walk.* Bangor, ME: Theodore-Press, 1992. The first separate edition of this essay, in an edition limited to 140 copies. $325.00.

———. *A Yearning Toward Wildness: Environmental Quotations from the Writings of.* Edited by Tim Homan. Atlanta, GA: Peachtree, 1991. 166 pp. A well-printed, handy, pocket-sized paperback volume of selections from Thoreau's nature writing emphasizing his life-long concern both with the beauty of nature and the need for its preservation. A book to take into the woods and meditate on. Contains a good selection of both the familiar and the lesser-known passages. Our only regret is that it is not indexed.

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We are indebted to the following for information sent in for this bulletin: J. Armstrong, J. Barrett, R. Borst, J. Dawson, B. Dean, C. Burley, F. Dedmond, A. deMontigny, D. Doren, E. Fenander, R. Galvin, P. Huber, E. Johnson, K. Kasegawa, R. Lester, J. McCue, A. McGrath, J. Mould, G. Ryan, D. Scheese, E.Schofield, M. Shanks, G. Spiotta, J. Welch, R. Winslow, E. Witherell, J. Wolnski, and S. Yoos. Please keep me informed of items I have missed and new ones as they appear. Walter Harding, 19 Oak Street, Geneseo, NY 14454.

The 1992 Annual Meeting

The Society's 1992 annual meeting will be held on Saturday, 11 July, at the First Parish Church in Concord, Massachusetts. Coffee and donuts will be served in the vestry beginning at 9:00 a.m. At 9:45 a.m. the business meeting will begin in the main hall. Senator Paul Tsongas is *tentatively* scheduled to deliver the keynote address, and Edmund Schofield will deliver the presidential address on "Dead Words." Marcia Moss will conduct her special tour of the Thoreau treasures in the Concord Free Public Library Saturday afternoon, and Saturday evening Michael J. Kellett, former Northeast Director of the Wilderness Society and current trustee of the Thoreau Country Conservation Alliance, will speak on "From Maine to Minnesota in Thoreau's Northern Forest."

Lunch will be served Saturday in the First Parish vestry at 12:15 p.m., followed by the annual Thoreau Quiz, conducted by Thomas Blanding. Saturday evening a dinner buffet will be served in the vestry. Tickets for lunch and dinner are $12.00 each and *reservations must be made in advance before Wednesday, 8 July.*

At the Concord Academy on Thursday and Friday, 9-10 July, the Society will sponsor a forum on "Walden in the 21st Century: The Future of Walden Pond and Walden Woods," which will bring together most of the organizations and individuals involved in preserving these two endangered landmarks. On Friday evening, 10 July, the Society will conduct a special forum on its future and on the proposed Thoreau Center, Joel Myerson moderator. Sunday afternoon, 12 July, the Emerson Society will conduct its annual session at the Concord Museum; this year's session will be on "Emerson and Concord: A Sense of Place."

The Nominating Committee reports that it will offer the following slate: Edmund A. Schofield, president; Joel Myerson, president-elect; Eric Parkman Smith, treasurer; Bradley P. Dean, secretary; Geoffrey H. White and Teruhiro Murata, Board of Directors.

A Sesquicentennial Walk to Mt. Wachusett

To commemorate the 150th anniversary of Thoreau's walk to Wachusett, the Thoreau Society will sponsor a miniature version of the event. On the evening of 8 July 1992, Robert Sattelmeyer will speak on Thoreau's natural history essays at the public library in Princeton, Massachusetts. His talk will be followed by a sunset walk around this historic New England Village.

At dawn the following morning, participants will meet at the Wachusett Meadows Wildlife Sanctuary to begin their walk to the summit of the mountain, guided by J. Parker Huber.

Discussions, readings, and meditations will take place along the way. A wholesome lunch will be provided on the summit, where readings from Wordsworth and Thoreau will be given, and a natural history walk will take place. In the afternoon participants will return on foot to the Sanctuary.

A $10 fee will cover lecture, Sanctuary admission, and food. Because of the nature of the Sanctuary and mountain trails, the number of participants will be limited to forty (first come, first served). To register, send a check in the full amount to Professor Robert D. Madison, Department of English, U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD 21402.

[13 July 1858]

Thoreau in the Boston *Chronotype*

Kent P. Ljungquist

The *Daily Chronotype*, a Boston newspaper edited by the reformer Elizur Wright (1804-1885), noticed Elizabeth Peabody's *Aesthetic Papers* on 16 May 1849, p. 2, with the following comment: "Resistance to Civil Government, by H. D. Thoreau, is a very interesting paper, and quite radical—beautifully so." Under "New Publications" on 1 June 1849, p. 2, the same paper reviewed *A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers*:

> This is what Mr. Edward Beecher would probably call a very naughty pantheistic book. But we are ready to bet a hat that he has not read it and never will. The style is simple but not without point and sometimes very sharp point. Many will be unkind enough to say that it is Emerson at second hand. But who knows that if Ralph Waldo had not been born there would not have been another Emerson, precisely this Henry D. Thoreau, the product of the same causes? To our task there is in this book a delicious intermixture of landscape painting and philosophy. There is an uncontrollable impatience of chains and yet the playful quietness of a flock of month old lambs. Still we have no doubt that dull and stupid theology is very much changed by such books, and Matthew Hale Smith and Parson McClure should be a committee to exterminate them. [Reprinted in the *Weekly Chronotype* on 9 June 1849, p. 1.]

Of the three religious figures mentioned in the review, Edward Beecher (1803-1895) eventually achieved the greatest notoriety. He was cited as a critic of "Pantheism," described in a 9 June 1849 column as a heretical philosophy designed to apprehend God in the here and now. Son of Lyman Beecher and pastor of the Salem Street Church in Boston, he edited the *Congregationalist* from 1849-1883. A. Wilson McClure (1808-1865) edited the *Christian Observatory* from 1846-1849 and contributed to the *Puritan Recorder*. The third minister mentioned in the review, Matthew Hale Smith (1816-1879), was a critic of Universalism and the object of much scorn in the *Chronotype*.

The *Daily Chronotype* made one final reference to Thoreau late in 1849. Noticing the *Massachusetts Quarterly Review*, the paper lauded the "irrepressible good humor and wit" in James Russell Lowell's review of Thoreau's "pleasant book on the Concord and Merrimack" (5 December 1849, p. 1).

[Editor's Note: The same week we received copy for this article from Professor Ljungquist, we received a photocopy of the *Weekly Chronotype* review of *A Week* from Richard E. Winslow III.]

I Discover Thoreau

Frank DeMarco

"Also, you know, Walden was a community of one."

It may not be an exact quote, but that's the substance of what he said. I know, because that same day I summarized it in my journal. Just as well that I did: that suggestion shaped and enriched my life down to this day.

In 1970, twenty-four years old, one year out of college, one year married, with a year's worth of newspaper reporting behind me, I entered the University of Iowa as a grad student in history. I had a particular bee in my bonnet, and—earnest young man that I was—immediately carried it to my thesis supervisor, history professor Stow Persons.

When he asked if I had an idea for a thesis topic, I blurted that I wanted to trace the origins of modern man's present crisis of faith. I wanted to see what faiths and solutions have been tried, to what extent they succeeded or failed, how the results influenced future developments, which were the most prominent, and so forth.

Kind Dr. Persons listened politely to all this and, when I had wound down, said with just the ghost of a smile that this seemed to him more like a life's work than a thesis topic. I would have to narrow it down to something manageable.

All these years later, I understand that smile better than I did that day.

He suggested, I think, those Americans who had revolted against materialism. It was probably he who first mentioned the Transcendentalists. (At the time I knew nothing of the Transcendentalists but their names. My wife and I had visited Concord, Massachusetts, on our honeymoon, but that was at her suggestion. I had heard of *Walden*, but hadn't read it. So, oddly, I walked around the shores of the pond more than a year before I ever opened the book that had made it famous.) I went away and thought about Transcendentalists.
For several days, I tried this idea and that, very much aware that I was wasting the valuable and expensive time we were buying with our savings and my wife's rather menial job. The few days felt like weeks. On Monday, 21 September 1970, I stopped into Dr. Persons' office between classes and confessed my inability to find a topic.

He suggested that I read Bronson Alcott's journals, just published. He pointed out that ordinarily utopians were concerned with the material aspects of social organization—seeing that everyone had enough to eat, had a certain minimum of economic and social opportunity, and so on—but that Bronson Alcott was not much interested in such problems. (An understatement!) He thought I might do well to examine Alcott's journals with this in mind. And, almost as an afterthought, he said I might consider Thoreau at Walden as "a community of one"; that approach shed light on Thoreau's ideals and interests, he said.

I wonder: if Alcott had been able to write as well as he is said to have talked, would I ever have gotten to Thoreau? It was only after I found Alcott's style orotund, opaque, and downright irritating that I picked up *Walden*.

Walden captivated me by style and content. Here was what I'd been looking for: an American spiritual manifesto. My thesis turned out to be fifty pages on "Thoreau's Early Social Views as Influenced by His Personal Religion"; it came not from my reading of *Walden*, but from volume one of Thoreau's *Journal*, his gleanings from the years 1837-1847, the decade of his twenties.

That journal helped derail me from the Ph.D. track. I left the University of Iowa with an M.A. and proceeded to spend the next few years trying to write about him, aided by my wife's splendid gift of the two-volume Dover edition of the journal.

My commentary on Thoreau is yet unpublished; indeed, it is uncompleted and not likely ever to be completed. Every time I think I have the essential Thoreau firmly in mind, the uncooperative man reveals new aspects of himself. Every change in my life's circumstances shows me Thoreau in a new and often very illuminating light.

For more than twenty years, his values and example have changed and deepened me, until I am in no respect the man I might have been if he hadn't lived and written. He has been a lifetime companion, encouraging my growth and reproaching my shortcomings. I realize now that this process is likely—with luck—to continue until my death. All because I needed a thesis topic.

[17 January 1858]

Curator's Corner

Anne McGrath

Spring has come to Concord! How do I know? I know because not only are the red-winged blackbirds and grackles swarming all over our farm fields, but the *visitors* are here in our streets and literary houses!

The Lyceum's share of the vernal flood consists mostly of high-school juniors because that is the year when American Literature is taught. When classes come to the Lyceum, they sit on the floor and get the word! Talking about Henry Thoreau's family and friends in the setting of the Concord of his day, underlining his anti-slavery activities, quoting from his contemporaries, and reading from his journal—all these things help to erase the "hermit" image that still exists in too many educational institutions.

One of the definitions of the word *lyceum* is: "a hall for public lectures and discussions." Here we give the facts and encourage the discussions!

Notes & Queries

Professor Kenneth Walter Cameron, past editor of both the *Emerson Society Quarterly* and the *American Transcendental Quarterly*, current editor of the *American Renaissance Literary Quarterly*, and author of numerous books and

monographs on Thoreau and the other transcendentalists, donated to the Society forty-two large cartons containing back issues of *ESQ* and *ATQ*, all dating from the period of his tenure as editor of these periodicals. This magnificent gift is now in storage, but will soon be catalogued and made available for sale to Society members. In appreciation of Professor Cameron's generosity and in recognition of his outstanding life-long contributions to Thoreau studies, the Board of Directors has made him an honorary life member of the Society.

James Farmer, *Lay Bare the Heart* (New York: New American Library, 1985), often refers to Thoreau in his account of his life devoted to civil rights.

The Concord Free Public Library held a reception on 8 February 1992 to introduce the Alfred W. Hosmer photography exhibit. Although the Hosmer plates have been in the Library's Special Collections since the 1940s, they have only recently been printed.

David and Steve Marlin (7 Minola Road, Lexington, MA 02173) still have copies of their videotape, *Thoreau's Walden*, available. They showed this "video portrait of beautiful Walden Pond, narrated with the words of Henry David Thoreau" at the Jubilee celebration last July.

Martha Rowse has produced a "perpetual calendar" with quotations from Thoreau. It can be ordered from the Thoreau Lyceum.

The Walden Woods Project's efforts to save the Walden Woods continue to receive wide publicity in, for example: *Nation*, 28 October 1991; *Akron Beacon Journal*, 18 September 1991; *American Way*, 15 November 1991; *USA Today*, 3 December 1991; *New York*, 3 February 1992; *Baltimore Sun*, 10 February 1992; *Union Leader* (Manchester, NH), 13 February 1992; *Minuteman Chronicle*, 1 April 1992; *Boston Globe*, 21 March 1992, 2 April 1992; and *Concord Journal*, 27 February 1992, 2 April 1992. From all accounts, the Project's "Walk for Walden Woods" on Sunday, 12 April, was an enormous success, attracting (according to the Concord Police Department) between 7,000 and 8,000 participants. CNN covered the "Walk" on its "Headline News" program; and accounts appeared the following day in the *Boston Globe*, *Boston Herald*, *Lowell Sun*, *Middlesex News*, *Worcester Telegram & Gazette*, and *USA Today*, among other newspapers. The Project has issued a watercolor print of the Walden house by Nicholas Santolen, both as a greeting card and as an enlarged, limited-edition print. Also, copies of the poster "Walden Woods, Cradle of American Conservation," produced by the Project in collaboration with the Thoreau Country Conservation Alliance, are available for $20 from the Walden Woods Project, 18 Tremont Street, Suite 630, Boston, MA 02108; (800) 543-9911.

The town of Concord, with help from the Trust for Public Land, recently purchased a 40-acre tract of land along the town's border with Sudbury. The property, formerly owned by Unisys, is open to the public for passive recreation, and the town has formed a committee to work with Sudbury officials and the White Pond Advisory Committee to explore future uses of the property.

At a town meeting on 13 April, Concord residents voted 315-42 to initiate the next phase of the Town Dump, which could involve clearing and excavating six additional acres adjacent to the Walden Pond State Reservation.

Debby Rawlings, *Perverting the Preacher's Wife* (Los Angeles: Oakmore, 1988), a hard-core porn novel, quotes Thoreau's "The mass of men lead lives of quiet desperation" in the Foreword and adds that this is "a novel about the quiet desperation in so many of us."

David Remnick, "The Man Who Dared," *Michigan: Magazine of the Detroit News*, 17 May 1987, cites the influence of Thoreau upon stock manipulator and possible independent presidential candidate H. Ross Perot!

William Martin, *Cape Cod* (Warner Books, 1991) includes Thoreau as a minor character in the novel.

The town of Reston, Virginia, has both a Lake Thoreau and a Thoreau Place.

A new 11-volume reference work, *Omni Gazetteer of the United States*, edited by Frank R. Abate, contains the names, locations, and identifications of nearly 1.5 million populated places, structures, facilities, locales, historic places, and geographic features in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories. Some of the "Walden" entries: twelve cemeteries, four locales, four streams, one plain "Walden," one lake, one "Walden Lakes," one bayou, one bridge, one chapel, one "Walden Chapel Cove," one "Walden Cliffs" (cliffs), and one "Walden Cliffs" (hollows). One locale in Harris County, TX, is called "Walden Woods." Thirteen entries have the name "Thoreau" in them, including three schools, two houses, a campsite, a falls, a trail, a bog, a cabin site, a peak, and a spring.

Jim Dawson has found an early postcard view of the Thoreau-Alcott House which includes an advertisement for Brown's Bronchial Troches, "a safe, simple, harmless remedy for throat troubles." We fear they would not have helped Henry.

Sudbury author and UMass Boston professor Shaun O'Connell delivered a lecture titled

"Concord: A Sense of Place" at the Concord Museum on the evening of 24 February 1992. His lecture pointed out the significance of Concord to Thoreau, Emerson, and Hawthorne, and how Concord became a symbol of their renewed spiritual vision of America.

Collector's Corner: The current volume (#43) of Bookman's Price Index lists the following prices for first editions of Thoreau books: *Cape Cod*, $200, $750; *Early Spring*, $150; *Letters to Various Persons*, $650; *Maine Woods*, $650; *Poems of Nature*, $200; *Summer*, $200; *Walden*, $3,000; *Walden*, English 1st, $450; *Week*, English 1st, $275; *Winter*, $200; *Yankee in Canada*, $300, $600, and $1500. A first-edition *Walden* was sold at a Southeby's auction recently for $11,000; and a collector in San Jose, CA, is asking $20,000 for a set of Houghton-Mifflin's 1906 Manuscript Edition of Thoreau's *Writings*.

This past summer, on the recommendation of the Publications Committee, the Society's Board of Directors voted to suspend publication of the *Concord Saunterer* until the Society's current financial difficulties are resolved.

Upcoming Thoreau sesquicentennials: walk to Mt. Wachusett (July 1992), walk to Mt. Greylock (July-August 1994), move to Walden Pond (July 1995), arrest for non-payment of taxes (July 1996). The centennial of John Muir's pilgrimage to Walden Pond is 1993.

Professor Ronald Pesha is preparing a bibliography of Thoreau-related videotapes and would appreciate any information on the topic, including previous compilations. Write Professor Ronald Pesha, Department of Broadcasting, Adirondack Community College, Glens Falls, NY 12801.

The Lyceum replica of Thoreau's Walden house recently got a new, badly needed roof at a cost of over $700.

[4 January 1858]

Professor Robert Sattelmeyer and his work as General Editor of Thoreau's *Journal* (Princeton Edition) were featured on "CNN Headline News" and "CNN Prime Time News" during the weekend of 23-24 November 1991.

Thoreau scholar and past-president of the Society Thomas Blanding will teach six sessions on "The Concord Authors on the Concord Rivers" for the Concord-Carlisle Regional School District on Wednesday evenings beginning 29 April. The sessions will meet at various locations in and around Concord. Advance registration is $40.

At a special ceremony during the Walk for Walden Woods in Concord on Sunday, 12 April 1992, Michael Joseph Connolly, Secretary of State of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, conferred his "Award for Distinguished Service" upon Don Henley in recognition of Henley's "exceptional efforts to raise funds to protect Walden Woods." The award, which has been conferred only once before, is presented to individuals who demonstrate outstanding commitment to historic preservation. Connolly is also chairman of the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

Composer Thomas Oboe Lee of Cambridge, MA, will conduct the Concord premier of his new work, *That Mountain*, at the Performing Arts Center of Concord Academy on Thursday evening, 6 July 1992, at 8 p.m. *That Mountain* is based on passages from Thoreau's writings and was commissioned by the Society in honor of Walter Harding and in commemoration of the Society's 50th anniversary last year. The work's world premier took place last year in Worcester during the Jubilee celebration. Lee describes *That Mountain*, which is 45 minutes in length, as "a musical drama in seven parts." The work is scored for flute, clarinet, violin, cello, percussion, and piano, as well as baritone. Tickets are $8 until 1 July, $10 thereafter. Society members can pay for their tickets when registering for the Friday evening forum or when reserving luncheon or evening buffet tickets for the annual meeting.

Our president, Ed Schofield, reports that publication of the proceedings of our Jubilee celebration last July is expected in August or September. The paperback book will be titled *A Natural Legacy: Thoreau's World and Ours*, and will be published under the North American Press imprint of Fulcrum Publishing, Golden, CO. The Thoreau Society, Inc., will own the copyright, and all royalties on the sale of the book will go to the Society. Advance orders can be placed by calling (800) 992-2908.

The Thoreau Society, Inc. is an informal gathering of students and admirers of Henry David Thoreau. Edmund A. Schofield, president; Eric Parkman Smith, treasurer; Bradley P. Dean, secretary. Dues: $20; students $10; family $35; benefactor $100; life $500. Address communications to the secretary at Route 2, Box 36, Ayden, NC 28513; send dues to the Thoreau Society, Inc., 156 Belknap Street, Concord, MA 01742.